

## RECORD OF ROOT-KNOT NEMATODES IN TURKEY

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### Abstract

*Meloidogyne* root-knot nematodes are polyphagous and widely distributed producing galls on the root system on more than 3000 host plants (Sasser & Carter, 1982; Reddy, 1983). In Turkey the damages to plants caused by nematodes are serious and complex. Sandy and arid soils as found in the arid zone are favourable for nematode development and infestation (Okten *et al.*, 2000). During surveys of plant parasitic nematodes, moderate to severe root-knot infection was observed on the roots of pepper (*Capsicum annuum* L.), tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) and watermelon (*Citrullus vulgaris* Schrad) growing in the green house and field in Eskisehir, Burdur and Isparta provinces. The watermelon roots were observed with typical root-knot swelling. On the basis of perineal pattern of mature females (Southey, 1986) these were identified as *Meloidogyne javanica* (Treub, 1885) Chitwood, 1949 (Jepson, 1987; Eisenback & Triantaphyllou, 1991). Taxonomic status was given according to Siddiqi (1986).